

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Applicants appreciate the Examiner indicating that claims 12-20 are allowable. Applicants have amended claim 1 and cancelled claims 2, 7, 9, and 10 leaving claims 1 and 3-6, 8, and 11-20 for consideration upon entry of this amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following statements.

Applicants have cancelled claims 2, 7, 9, and 10. Accordingly, applicants submit that the rejections related to claims 2, 7, 9 and 10 are now moot.

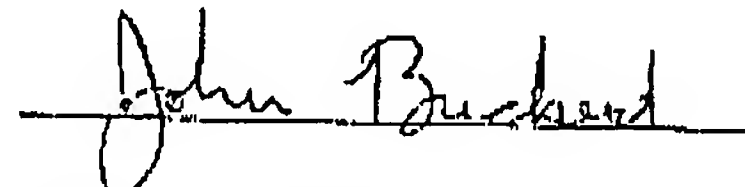
Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Muller et al. The Examiner indicated that claim 2, as filed, would be allowable if it included all of the limitations of claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include all of the limitations of claim 2. Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Further, applicants submit that claims 5, 6, 8, and 11, which depend from claim 1, are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 2. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4, which depend from claim 1, now have proper antecedent basis and are believed to be allowable.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with the attorney identified below would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If there are any charges due with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,



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